State of Louisiana



GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT

MARK C. DRENNEN COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

January 8, 2004

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION NOTICE NUMBER 04-02

SUBJECT: Pay Telephones

Beginning December 31, 2003, BellSouth will no longer provide public pay telephone dial tone or equipment statewide.

The Office of Telecommunications Management (OTM) is now selecting vendors for the eight state planning districts. Locations outside the BellSouth franchise areas will not be included. There could be delays and inconveniences with the transition from BellSouth to the new pay telephone vendor or providers.

Your agency may want to consider alternatives to the current pay telephone situation and install a toll restricted telephone line. These lines or stations should only allow local free, toll free, operator handled collect, third number, or calling card calls. In addition, Billed Number Screening (BNS) should be applied to these lines or stations to prevent inward collect and third number calls from being charged to these lines. Should you choose this option, please send your orders to the OTM Customer Service Section. They will direct your order to the appropriate local exchange company or PBX supplier.

In the future, agencies may be billed monthly recurring charges as well as one-time charges for installing pay telephones. Once a contract is in place, agencies will deal directly with the new pay telephone providers.

Questions about pay telephones should be directed to Bob Schilling at 225-342-7756 or Bob.Schilling@la.gov.